



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held July 12, 2005, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

The Sheriff's recommendation to approve and instruct the Chair to sign agreement with Foothill Transit at an estimated annual cost of \$649,000 and one time start up costs of \$214,000 totally funded by Foothill Transit, for the Department to provide law enforcement to Foothill Transit, a transit organization offering bus services in the East San Gabriel Valley (1, 4 and 5), effective July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2010; also authorize ordinance position authority for an additional four sworn staff positions with the positions to be requested and formally established as part of the Sheriff's final budget changes for Fiscal Year 2005-06.

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Antonovich and Molina:

"In recent months, the Board of Supervisors allocated funds to the Sheriff's Department (LASD) to fulfill certain public safety priorities for this Board and the County unincorporated areas. Specifically, the LASD committed to expand custody operations to phase out the early release of inmates, increase staff in recruitment and background checks, and increase unincorporated patrols and detectives.

"The vacancies have reached critical mass with projections showing nearly 1,300 vacancies by the end of next month, and 1,043 by the end of this fiscal year. In fact, due to the vacancy rate and recruitment challenges, the LASD has indicated that the earliest they can begin increasing the unincorporated patrols and detectives is in two years or beginning in FY 07-08. Meanwhile, the LASD is requesting authority to enter into a new contract with an outside agency which further increases their existing vacancy rate and potentially delays fulfilling existing commitments. It is imperative that the LASD priorities and Board priorities are consistent. In fact, it is critical that the LASD give first priority to the items already funded by the Board, rather than enter into new contracts or increase existing contracts."

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Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Molina, that Board take the following actions:

1. Oppose the attached contract with Foothill Transit; and
2. Request the Sheriff to:
 - Fill existing commitments to expand custody operations, increase staff in recruitment, backgrounds, unincorporated patrols and detectives with the required number of sworn personnel prior to committing additional personnel to outside agencies;
 - Report back to the Board within 14 days on any and all existing contract modifications since March 1, 2005; and
 - Upon the graduation of each academy class, report back to the Board delineating the total number of graduates and the movement of sworn personnel, beginning with the last two academy graduations.

Paul K. Tanaka, Assistant Sheriff, and Captain Daniel Finkelstein, Transit Services Bureau, Sheriff's Department, responded to questions posed by the Board.

After discussion, Supervisor Burke made a substitute motion, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, that the Board continue the Sheriff's aforementioned recommendation 30 days to August 9, 2005; and request the Sheriff to report back to the Board on issues relating to cost, overtime and staff allocation for the proposed contract for provision of law enforcement to Foothill Transit in the East San Gabriel Valley. Said substitute motion was unanimously carried.

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Sheriff